

III. REMARKS

Claims 1-35 were presented for prosecution. Claims 7, 8, 20, 21, 31 and 32 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As such, claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 7 (including claims 5 and 6); new claim 36 was added and includes the allowable subject matter of claim 8 (including claims 5 and 6); claim 14 was amended to include the allowable subject matter of claims 20 and 21 (and claim 19); claim 27 was amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 31 (including claims 29 and 30); and new claim 32 was added to include the allowable subject matter of claim 32 (including claims 29 and 30). Claims 33 and 35 were amended to address dependencies, and claims 5-9, 19-21 and 29-32 were canceled. No new matter is believed added.

Applicants are not conceding in this application that the previous claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the examiner. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue the previous and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Hoffman", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael F. Hoffman
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Dated: 11/05/07

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